GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:539
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015
FALL IN EXPORT OF COTTON
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton growing farmers committed suicides in the country during 2014;

(b) whether export of cotton is likely to fall thereby affecting the cotton growers in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to help the cotton growers in case of any eventuality; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): For the year 2014, no information regarding suicide cases by the cotton growing farmers has been reported to the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) & (c): Yes Madam. As per estimates by the Cotton Advisory Board, exports are expected to decrease to 90 lakh bales in comparison to 117.92 lakh bales in the previous cotton year. The main reason for fall in exports from India include decline in imports by China and reported offloading of its huge reserves of cotton.

(d) & (e): For the Cotton Season 2014-15, Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has been mandated to undertake Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations. CCI is operating more than 340 procurement centres in 92 districts across 11 cotton growing States in the country. Apart from CCI, in Maharashtra, the Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited (MSCCGMFL) has also been assigned the role of MSP procurement of cotton. Directions have been issued to CCI for the smooth conduct of MSP operations during the Cotton Season 2014-15, which include giving wide publicity of MSP of cotton fixed and the details of procurement centres opened by CCI for MSP operations, opening of additional purchase centres as per requirement, online payment to farmers and constant monitoring of the operations in each centre on a daily basis by the CCI.